

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)  
WITHOUT FILING FEE AND/OR WITHOUT EXECUTED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION

**Mail Stop Patent Application**

Atty. Dkt. 3691-632

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Date: February 11, 2004

This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:

**COATED ARTICLES WITH NITRIDED LAYER AND METHODS OF MAKING SAME**

without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

- ☐ Newly executed Declaration, ☐ Copy of Declaration from prior application, ☒ Abstract  
☐ Please **delete** the following inventors in the continuation/division/continuation-in-part application:

**Deleted persons:**

12 pages of specification and claims (including 21 numbered claims), and  
1 sheets of accompanying drawing/s.

☐ Attached is a Power of Attorney.

☐ Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based on the following foreign applications:

Application Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed
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, respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

☐ Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.

☐ Certified copy(ies) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ in prior application no. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_

☒ This application claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. 60/446,992, filed February 13, 2003, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

☐ This application is a ☐ continuation/☐ division/☐ continuation-in-part of Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

☐ Petition filed in prior application to extend its life to insure co-pendency.

☐ The prior application is assigned to \_\_\_\_\_

☐ It is hereby requested that the Examiner consider the art cited in the above parent application(s) by applicant and/or the Examiner for the reasons stated therein. A listing of that art is attached, but pursuant to Rule 98(d) copies are not required.

☐ Applicant claims "small entity" status. ☐ "Small entity" statement attached.

☐ Please enter the attached preliminary amendment **prior** to calculation of filing fee:

☒ Also attached: ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 and References ; ☐ Other:

1. Inventor:	Yuping	MI	LIN	U.S.
	(first)		(last)	(citizenship)
Residence: (city)	West Bloomfield	(state/country)	Michigan	
Mailing Address:	6648 Stonebridge East, West Bloomfield, Michigan			
(Zip Code)	48322			

☐ **See attached sheet(s) for additional inventor(s) information!!**

Address all future communications to NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C., 1100 North Glebe Road, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Arlington, VA 22201.

Correspondence Address:

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

**Customer Number:**

**23117**

By Atty: Joseph A. Rhoa, Reg. No. 37,515

Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

JAR:caj

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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